SUPERIOR SPIDER-MONTH

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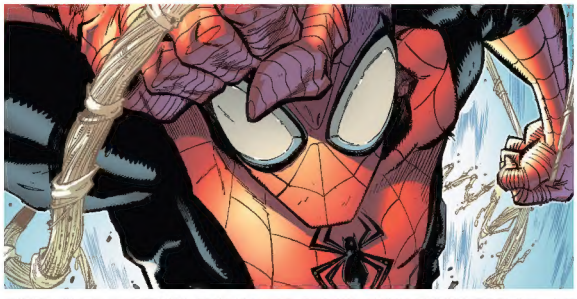
THE SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN



WHEN **OTTO OCTAVIUS** EXCHANGED BODIES WITH **PETER PARKER**, HE GAINED THE AMAZING SKILLS OF SPIDER-MAN – AND ALL OF PETER'S MEMORIES. OTTO HAS BECOME THE **SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN** AND NOW CARRIES ON PETER'S MISSION OF GREAT RESPONSIBILITY.

HOWEVER, OTTO ISN'T ABOVE RESORTING TO OLD TRICKS. HE HAS BLACKMAILED MAYOR **J. JONAH JAMESON** INTO GIVING HIM FREE REIGN AS SPIDER-MAN. HIS EFFORTS AS SPIDER-MAN ARE NOW UNCONTESTED BY THE LAW.

THE KINGPIN'S STRONGHOLD, **SHADOWLAND**, CONTINUES TO STAND IN HELL'S KITCHEN.

THE KINGPIN COMMANDS THE NINJAS KNOWN AS **THE HAND** AND THE MURDEROUS MANIAC KNOWN AS **THE HOBGOBLIN.**

A BLIND EYE

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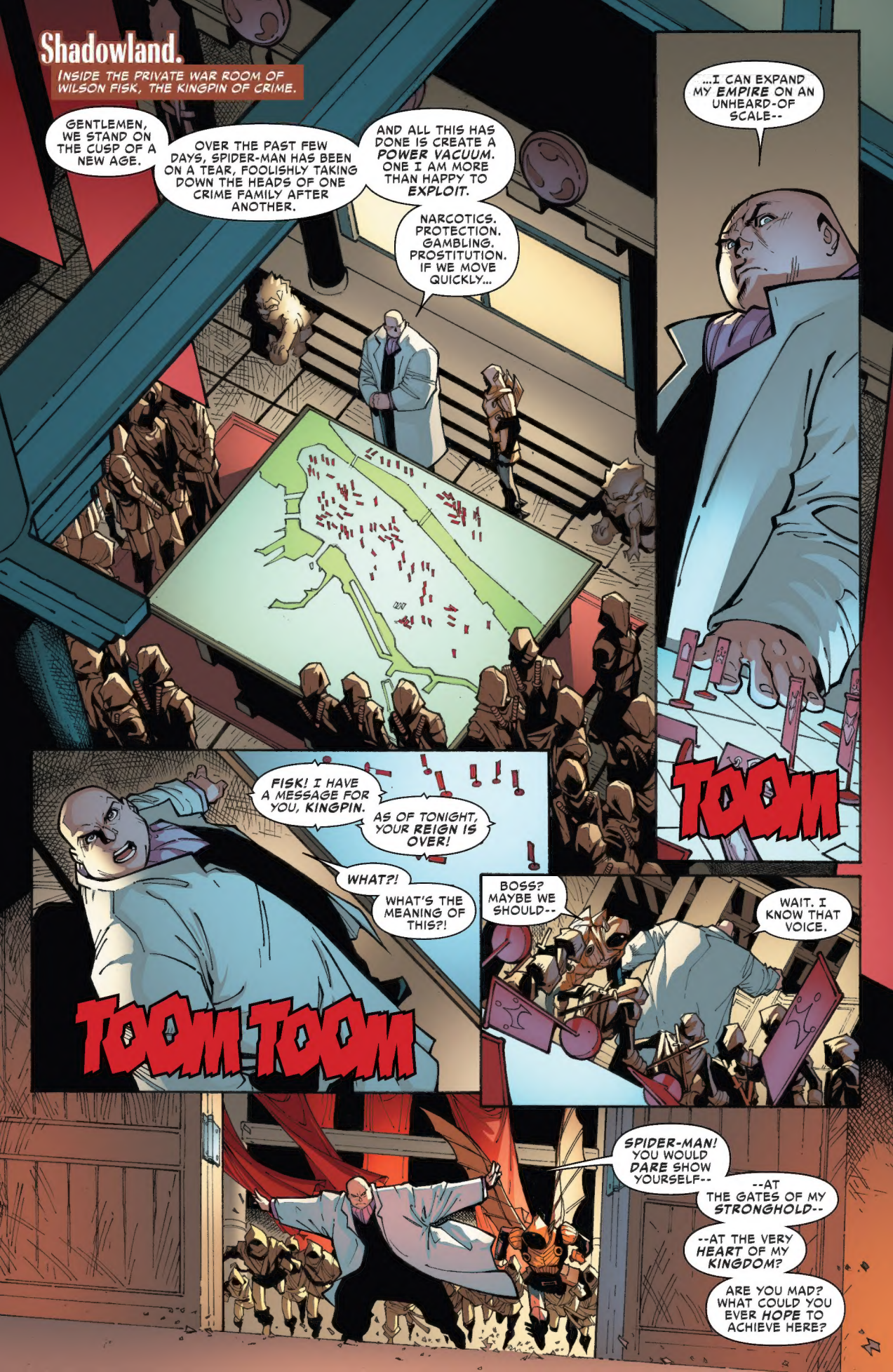
My name is Jaime Maldonado, and I have a problem. My son, Leo, can't sleep at night.
The two of us, we live in the shadow of SHADOWLAND, an impossible fortress--a feudal Japanese castle--
--standing in the middle of Hell's Kitchen. Built over the ashes of an entire city block.
We lost a lot of people in the neighborhood when those old buildings were destroyed without warning.
A number of children Leo's age.
More than enough ghosts to haunt him.
But that's not the worst of it.
A MONSTER lives there now. Lording it over us.
THE KINGPIN, crime boss of all New York.
Everyone knows what's going on in there.
Ninjas and crazy super-freaks darting in and out at night.
Terrible screams coming from inside. And no one DOES anything.
He pays us enough to look away, but not enough to leave.
Some days I am so angry, I can feel myself shake with rage. All the way down to my--
WHAT?
TOOM

DAD?
TOOM
WHAT IS THAT?
IT'S *THEM*, ISN'T IT? THEY'RE COMIN' TO GET US, AREN'T THEY?
DON'T WORRY, LEO. IT'S GONNA BE OKAY. I PROMISE.
TOOM TOOM
EVERYTHING'S GONNA BE...
O...
HOLY--
TOOMTOOMTOOM


Shadowland.
Inside the private war room of Wilson Fisk, the Kingpin of Crime.
Gentlemen, we stand on the cusp of a new age.
Over the past few days, Spider-Man has been on a tear, foolishly taking down the heads of one crime family after another.
And all this has done is create a POWER VACUUM. One I am more than happy to EXPLOIT.
Narcotics. Protection. Gambling. Prostitution. If we move quickly...
...I can expand my EMPIRE on an unheard-of scale--
TOOM
Fisk! I have a message for you, Kingpin.
As of tonight, your REIGN is over!
What?!
What's the meaning of this?!
TOOM TOOM
Boss? Maybe we should--
Wait. I know that voice.
Spider-Man! You would DARE show yourself--
--at the gates of my STRONGHOLD--
--at the very HEART of my KINGDOM?
Are you mad? What could you ever HOPE to achieve here?

IN ONE WORD...
REGICIDE.

ALL WEAPONS, OPEN FIRE!

KCHOOM

BKOW

PYAMM

ARACH-NAUGHTS, TARGET ALL STRUCTURES!

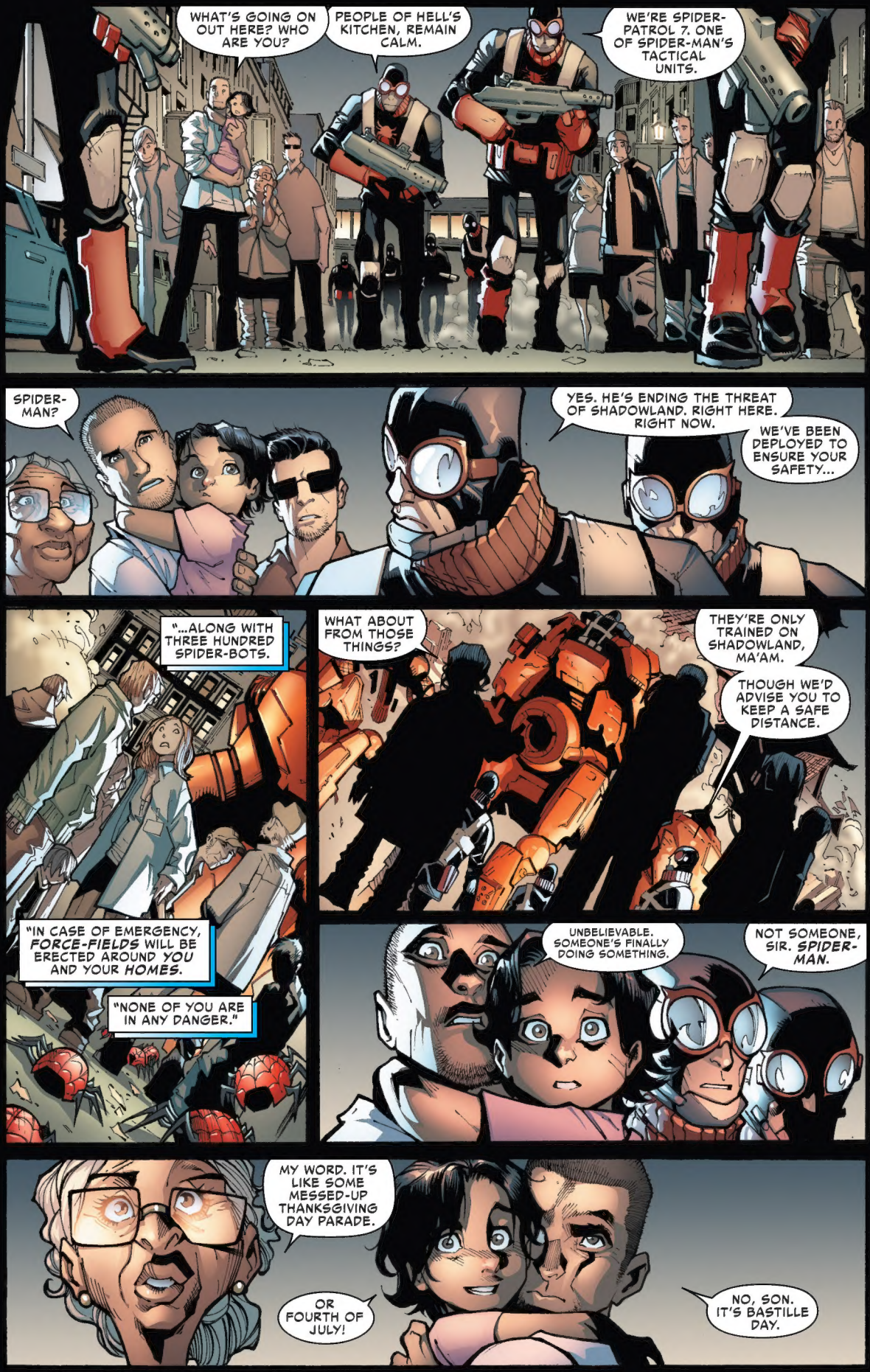
SPIDERLINGS, GO MAN TO MAN!

LEAVE NOTHING STANDING! LEAVE NO ONE ALIVE!

CHAW

ZRAK

ZZAT


WHAT'S GOING ON OUT HERE? WHO ARE YOU?
PEOPLE OF HELL'S KITCHEN, REMAIN CALM.
WE'RE SPIDER-PATROL 7. ONE OF SPIDER-MAN'S TACTICAL UNITS.
SPIDER-MAN?
YES. HE'S ENDING THE THREAT OF SHADOWLAND. RIGHT HERE. RIGHT NOW.
WE'VE BEEN DEPLOYED TO ENSURE YOUR SAFETY...
"...ALONG WITH THREE HUNDRED SPIDER-BOTS.
WHAT ABOUT FROM THOSE THINGS?
THEY'RE ONLY TRAINED ON SHADOWLAND, MA'AM.
THOUGH WE'D ADVISE YOU TO KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE.
"IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, FORCE-FIELDS WILL BE ERECTED AROUND YOU AND YOUR HOMES.
"NONE OF YOU ARE IN ANY DANGER."
UNBELIEVABLE. SOMEONE'S FINALLY DOING SOMETHING.
NOT SOMEONE, SIR. SPIDER-MAN.
MY WORD. IT'S LIKE SOME MESSED-UP THANKSGIVING DAY PARADE.
OR FOURTH OF JULY!
NO, SON. IT'S BASTILLE DAY.

WALL-CRAWLER!

YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS EFFRONTERY!

GEEZ, BOSS! NOT NOW. WE GOTTA GET YOU OUTTA HERE!

EVERYTHING'S GOING STRAIGHT TO HELL!

AHHH!

SHRIP

GYARR!

SLASHH

AND YOU TWO ALONG WITH IT, HOBGOBLIN!

MAKE NO MISTAKE, MY FRIEND, THESE ARE YOUR *FINAL* MOMENTS--

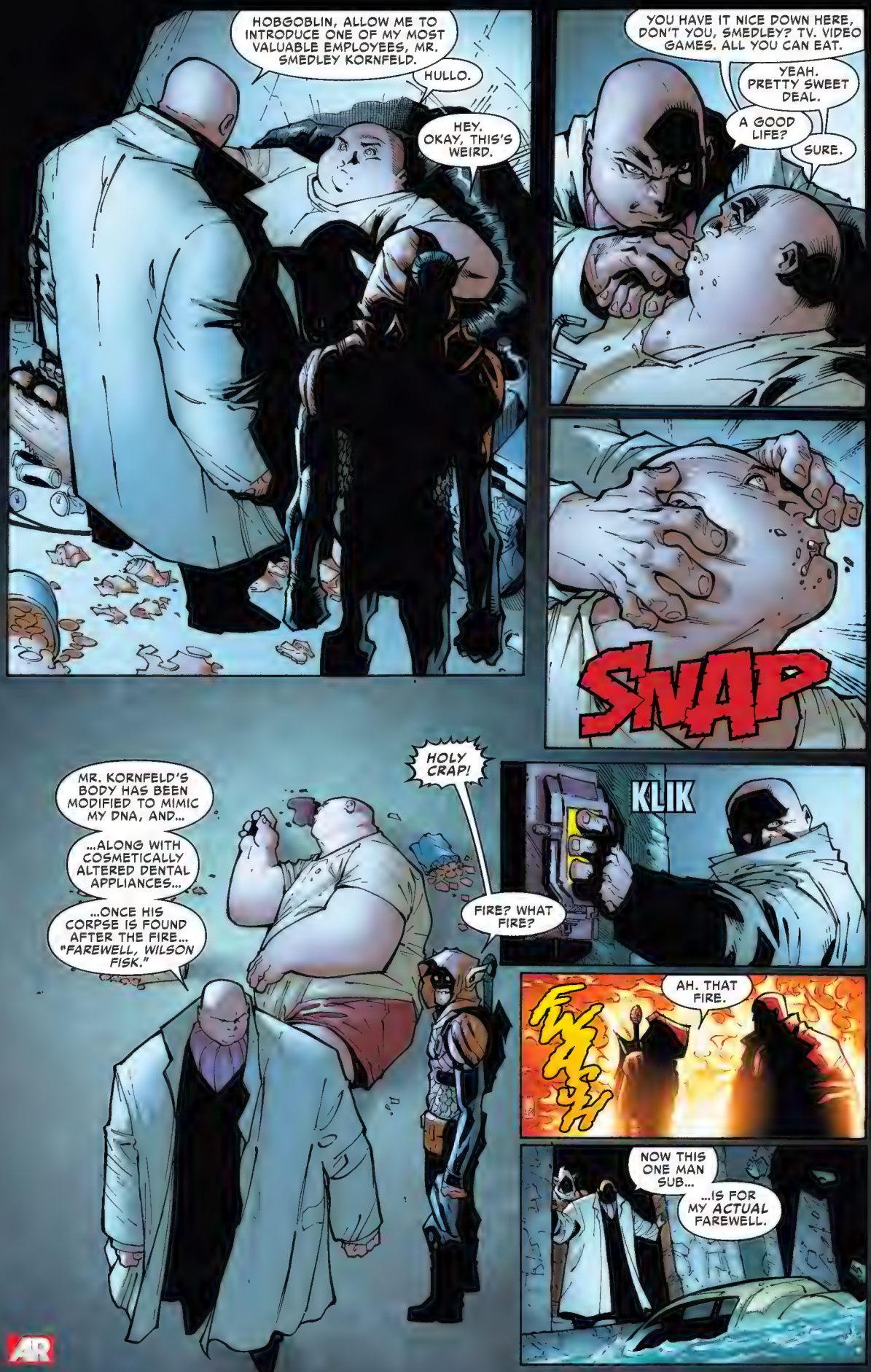
--AND WHAT'S LEFT OF THIS CASTLE OF YOURS SHALL SERVE AS YOUR *TOMB!*

A FITTING END, WHERE YOU SHALL FINALLY GET WHAT YOU SO RICHLY--
WHAT NOW?
INCOMING CALL FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE.
VERY WELL. PUT IT THROUGH.
URKK!
AAAKK!
SORRY.
I HAVE TO TAKE THIS.
SKRUCH
RRACHH
THIS ISN'T A GOOD TIME, MR. MAYOR.
I'M A LITTLE BUSY AT THE MOMENT.
OH, THIS SHOULDN'T TAKE TOO LONG, AVENGER.
I JUST HAVE ONE TINY, LITTLE QUESTION FOR YOU...

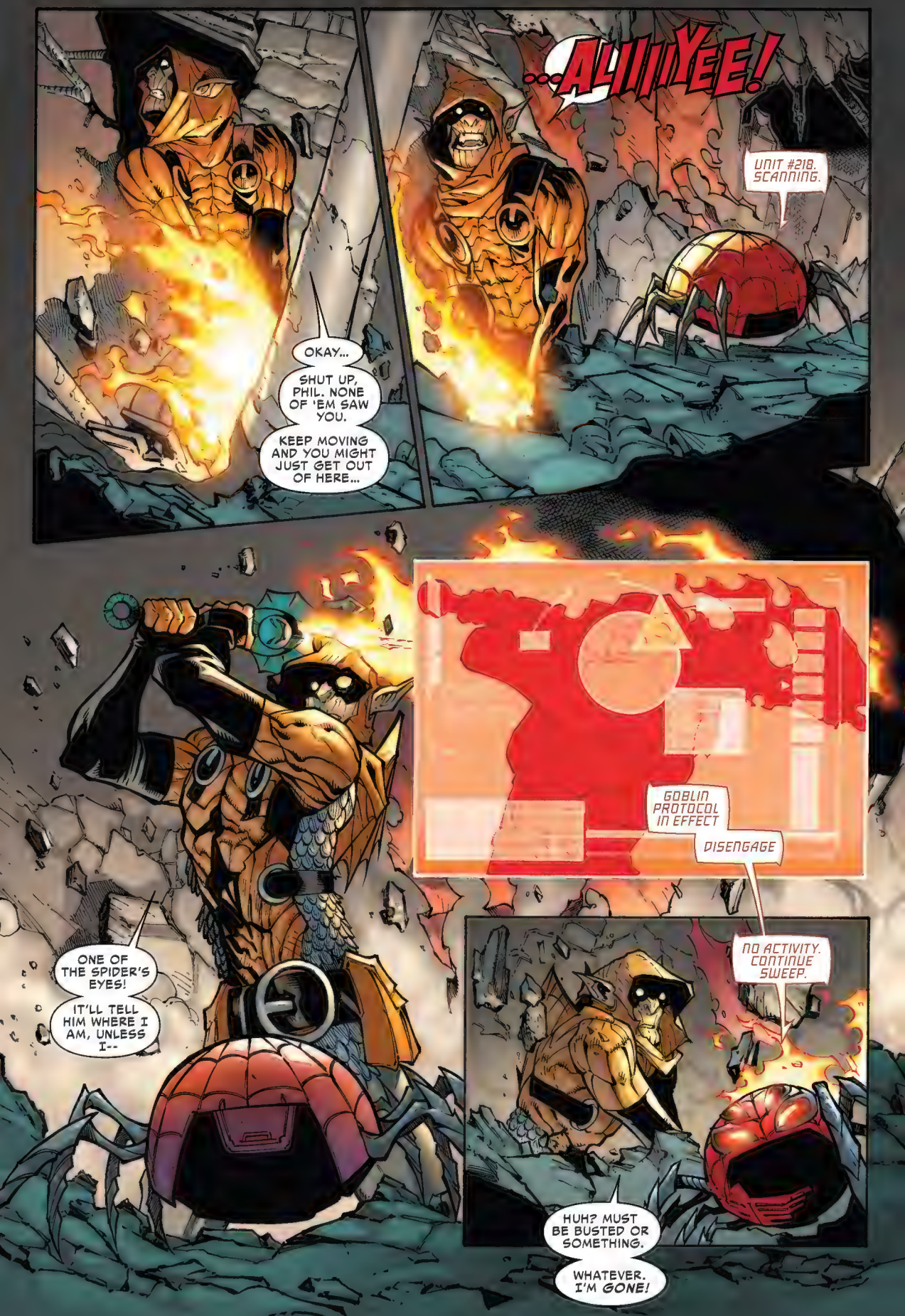
Gracie Mansion.
The residence of Mayor J. Jonah Jameson
WHAT IN SAM HILL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING?!
YOU BLITHERING BUG-BRAINED BUFFOON!
YOU'RE BLOWING UP A BUILDING?! IN MY CITY?! OF ALL THE--
ENOUGH!
THIS ISN'T ANY BUILDING, YOU INCOMPETENT CLOWN. IT'S SHADOWLAND.
THE PHYSICAL HUB OF THE KINGPIN'S CRIMINAL EMPIRE!
YOU AND THE CITY HAVE KNOWN ABOUT IT FOR SOME TIME.
AVENGERS HAVE BEEN INSIDE. LUKE CAGE, IRON FIST... AND MYSELF.
WE'VE GONE ON RECORD ABOUT EVERYTHING THAT TRANSPIRES HERE.
AND THERE IS NO EARTHLY REASON WHY THIS PLACE SHOULD STILL BE ON THE MAP!
IT GOES DOWN TONIGHT!

YOU'VE GONE TOO FAR THIS TIME, YOU WEB-SLINGING WEIRDO!
YOU DON'T HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO--
ACTUALLY, I DO.
OR WILL HAVE SHORTLY. COURTESY OF YOU, JAMESON.
WHAT?!
YOU HEARD ME.
YOU'RE GOING TO FILL OUT YOUR FORMS AND MAKE WHATEVER CALLS YOU HAVE TO.
AND ENSURE THAT THIS SURGICAL STRIKE HAS THE FULL BACKING OF THE MAYOR'S OFFICE.
IS THAT UNDERSTOOD? OR DO I HAVE TO REMIND YOU...
...OF THE LITTLE TALK WE HAD LAST WEEK?
LIVES? WHAT LIVES? ALL THE CIVILIANS ARE UNDER MY PROTECTION.
AND FISK'S "MEN," THESE HAND NINJAS, TURN TO DUST ONCE DISPENSED WITH.
THE ONLY BODIES THAT WILL BE FOUND-- WILL BE THOSE OF THE HOBGOBLIN, A KNOWN FELON...
AND ONE WILSON FISK, THE SUBJECT OF A DOZEN DAILY BUGLE EXPOSÉS AS THE KINGPIN OF CRIME.
NO. YOU CAN'T. THERE'LL BE QUESTIONS.
CASUALTIES. THINK OF THE LIVES THAT'LL BE LOST, MAN!
I BEG OF YOU...
OH, MY. I CERTAINLY HOPE THAT LAST PART...

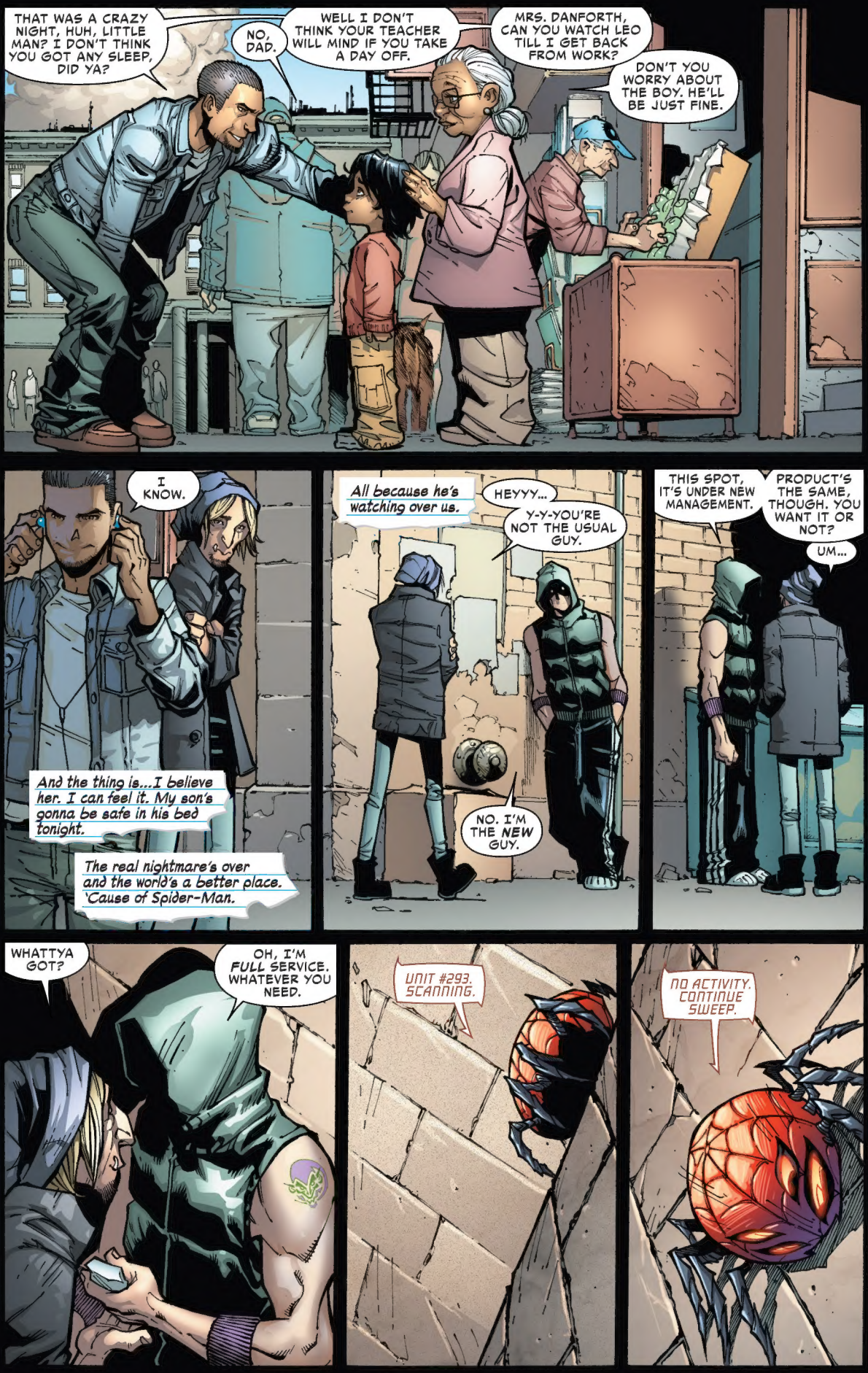
...WASN'T "ACCIDENTALLY" PICKED UP BY FISK'S SECURITY FEED.
I'D HATE FOR THAT ROTUND REPROBATE TO KNOW WHAT I HAVE IN STORE FOR HIM.
HA HA HA HA!
SO THAT'S WHAT THAT SOUNDS LIKE.
THAT'S... KINDA CREEPY.
THE VOICE IS THE SAME.
BUT THAT'S NOT THE SPIDER-MAN I KNOW.
HE'S GOING TO KILL US ALL AND DAMN THE CONSEQUENCES.
COME ALONG. THERE'S NOT MUCH TIME.
BOSS?
HOLD ON. WE SHOULDN'T GO FARTHER IN. WHOLE PLACE IS CRUMBLING.
WE'LL GET BURIED ALIVE.
HAVE TO RISK IT.
WHOA! YOU'VE NEVER TAKEN ME DOWN HERE BEFORE. WHAT IS THIS?
A SECRET ROOM. HERE.
AS YOU CAN SEE, THIS IS A MOMENT I AM WELL PREPARED FOR.
MMPH. MIBSTER FIBSK?
NOBODY SAID YOU WERE COMIN'.
WHAM


HOBGOBLIN, ALLOW ME TO INTRODUCE ONE OF MY MOST VALUABLE EMPLOYEES, MR. SMEDLEY KORNFELD.
HULLO.
HEY. OKAY, THIS'S WEIRD.
YOU HAVE IT NICE DOWN HERE, DON'T YOU, SMEDLEY? TV. VIDEO GAMES. ALL YOU CAN EAT.
YEAH. PRETTY SWEET DEAL.
A GOOD LIFE?
SURE.
SNAP
KLIK
HOLY CRAP!
FIRE? WHAT FIRE?
MR. KORNFELD'S BODY HAS BEEN MODIFIED TO MIMIC MY DNA, AND...
...ALONG WITH COSMETICALLY ALTERED DENTAL APPLIANCES...
...ONCE HIS CORPSE IS FOUND AFTER THE FIRE... "FAREWELL, WILSON FISK."
FWASH
AH. THAT FIRE.
NOW THIS ONE MAN SUB...
...IS FOR MY ACTUAL FAREWELL.

ONE MAN?
SADLY, MR. HOBGOBLIN, THE TIME HAS COME FOR THE TWO OF US TO SAY...
HM. SMART BOY.
YES. I SHALL LAY LOW FOR A WHILE. REST. REBUILD.
AND WHEN I RETURN, I SHALL HAVE MY REVENGE.
A PITY ABOUT THAT ONE LOOSE END, THOUGH...
"...BUT PERHAPS IF I'M LUCKY, SPIDER-MAN WILL FINISH THE JOB FOR ME."
THIS'S GREAT!
SPIDER-MAN WANTS ME DEAD. BOSS WANTS ME DEAD. EVERY PIECE OF FRICKIN' RUBBLE WANTS ME DEAD!
FOR JUST *ONCE* TONIGHT YA THINK SOMETHING COULD GO...
...MY WAY?
YES! I MADE IT OUT THE OTHER SIDE!


OKAY...
SHUT UP, PHIL. NONE OF 'EM SAW YOU.
KEEP MOVING AND YOU MIGHT JUST GET OUT OF HERE...
...ALIIIYEE!
UNIT #218. SCANNING.
ONE OF THE SPIDER'S EYES!
IT'LL TELL HIM WHERE I AM, UNLESS I--
GOBLIN PROTOCOL IN EFFECT
DISENGAGE
NO ACTIVITY. CONTINUE SWEEP.
HUH? MUST BE BUSTED OR SOMETHING.
WHATEVER. I'M GONE!

PEOPLE OF HELL'S KITCHEN, YOUR NIGHTMARE IS OVER.
SHADOWLAND IS NO MORE.
HE DID IT.
WE'RE FREE.
THANK YOU, SPIDEY.
THAT'S WHY I'M HERE. MISTER...?
MALDONADO. I'M JAIME. AND THIS'S LEO.
NICE TO MEET YOU. REMEMBER, LEO. I DID THIS FOR YOU.
ME AND MY MEN, WE DID THIS FOR ALL OF YOU.
AND ALL THANKS TO THE VERY GRACIOUS SUPPORT OF OUR VERY OWN MAYOR J. JONAH JAMESON.
WHEREVER YOU ARE, J.J.J., I COULDN'T HAVE DONE THIS WITHOUT YOU...
...PARTNER.
AH! THAT BLACKMAILING BUG! HE'S GOT ME RIGHT WHERE HE WANTS ME!
RIGHT UNDER HIS WEBBED THUMB! WE'RE IN CAHOOTS!
CAHOOTS!


THAT WAS A CRAZY NIGHT, HUH, LITTLE MAN? I DON'T THINK YOU GOT ANY SLEEP, DID YA?
NO, DAD.
WELL I DON'T THINK YOUR TEACHER WILL MIND IF YOU TAKE A DAY OFF.
MRS. DANFORTH, CAN YOU WATCH LEO TILL I GET BACK FROM WORK?
DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT THE BOY. HE'LL BE JUST FINE.
I KNOW.
And the thing is...I believe her. I can feel it. My son's gonna be safe in his bed tonight.
The real nightmare's over and the world's a better place. 'Cause of Spider-Man.
All because he's watching over us.
HEYYY...
Y-Y-YOU'RE NOT THE USUAL GUY.
NO. I'M THE NEW GUY.
THIS SPOT, IT'S UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT.
PRODUCT'S THE SAME, THOUGH. YOU WANT IT OR NOT?
UM...
WHATTYA GOT?
OH, I'M FULL SERVICE. WHATEVER YOU NEED.
UNIT #293. SCANNING.
NO ACTIVITY. CONTINUE SWEEP.

GENTLEMEN, WELCOME TO THE GOBLIN UNDERGROUND.
YOU'LL BE SAFE HERE.
SAFE? WE DON'T DESERVE TO LIVE. WE ARE UNWORTHY.
WE RAN FROM A BATTLE. FOR MEMBERS OF THE HAND, THERE CAN BE NO GREATER DISHONOR.
HEY, THAT DON'T MAKE YOU A COWARD.
THAT MEANS YOU'RE SMART.
AND PAL, TO THE GOBLIN, YOU ARE FAR FROM UNWORTHY.
IN FACT, YOU'RE WORTH MORE THAN YOU COULD POSSIBLY BELIEVE.
GATHER ROUND, MY SUBJECTS. WE HAVE WONDERFUL NEWS.
AS WILSON FISK'S FORMER MINIONS JOIN OUR RANKS, AND WE GOBBLE UP HIS INFRASTRUCTURE...
...WE'VE PASSED THE TIPPING POINT. 52% OF ALL ORGANIZED CRIME IN THIS TOWN IS UNDER OUR CONTROL.
AND FOR THAT, WE OWE A VERY SPECIAL THANKS TO THE SPIDER-MAN.
FOR CUTTING OFF THE HEADS AND LEAVING US THE BODIES.
AS OF RIGHT NOW, YOUR GOBLIN KING IS NOW THE GOBLIN KINGPIN OF CRIME!
HEE HEE! WITHOUT EVEN LIFTING A FINGER...

...I'VE ALREADY WON!
NEW YORK IS MINE!

'SUP SPIDER-MAN

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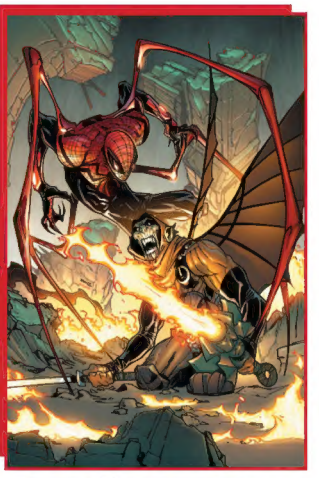
Hi everyone!

Assistant Editor Ellie Pyle, here. No time for a letter column this week because we are very busy planning Spider-Man's future at the Marvel creative retreat. But Steve took this picture of me and Dan at the retreat to prove to you that we are hard at work! (Except, of course, for the time we spent taking this picture.)

Anyhow, we will see you back here in two weeks for more Humberto-style high-flying Hobgoblin hijinks!

Said with a smile,
Ellie Pyle

NEXT: SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN #15!



ALSO THIS SUPERIOR SPIDER-MONTH:

SUPERIOR CARNAGE #1

SUPERIOR FOES OF SPIDER-MAN #1

SUPERIOR SPIDER-MAN TEAM-UP #1

MORBIUS #7

VENOM #37

SCARLET SPIDER #19